

Advice

The School Nursing Team offers the following:

- Health screening and assessment
- Healthy eating advice and weight management
- Parent/Carer/School Staff drop in sessions
- 1:1 appointments with young people
- Immunisations
- Parenting advice
- Bed-wetting (enuresis) clinics
- Signposting for specialist services, including CAMHS, audiology, speech and language therapy and sexual health services
- Referrals to other services
- Training for school staff
- Emotional health and wellbeing support
- ChatHealth text messaging service

Useful websites

Healthy Lifestyles/Eating: www.nhs.uk/change4life

Helping children with bedwetting daytime wetting or soiling problems: www.eric.org.uk

Information, advice and support for young people affected by mental health: www.youngminds.org.uk

Comments or complaints

If you have any suggestions or comments about the School Nursing Service, please contact your local School Nursing Team, via the numbers provided, through your child's school or via our website:

www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services-hospitals/physical-health/school-nursing

If you feel that we haven't given you the care you expected or needed, and you don't believe our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) can help, you can tell us about it by making a complaint. Please see:

www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/compliments-concerns-and-complaints

The information in this leaflet is available in additional languages and alternative formats. Please contact the Trust for further details.

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NHS

**Dorset HealthCare
University**
NHS Foundation Trust

**School
Nursing Service**



**Contact details
for your local
School Nursing
Team:**

If we are not available when you call, please leave a message. Please leave your name and daytime contact number and a member of the team will return your call as soon as possible.

Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust

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🐦 @DorsetHealth
🌐 www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk

**Information
for school children,
relatives and carers**

**Excellence
Compassion
Expertise**

Your School Nursing Team

Your School Nursing Team consists of a School Nursing Clinical Lead, Specialist Community Public Health Nurses, School Nurses, School Health Staff Nurses and School Health Nursery Nurses. They are all trained to work with children, families and school staff for the benefit of each child's health and development.

Each member of the Team has links with many other professionals who also work with children, including Community Paediatricians, Health Visitors and Speech and Language Therapists. Our aim is to provide all members of the school community with a high standard of service, offering help and advice whenever it is needed.

Role of School Nursing Team

All members of the School Nursing Team have a public health role in working with school aged children and their families. This means that we aim to prevent disease and promote health and wellbeing. We do this by encouraging healthier lifestyles, offering immunisations and giving information, advice and support to young people and their families. The School Nursing Team is committed to safeguarding all children and young people and adheres to Local Safeguarding Children's Board procedures.

Each school has a named Nurse who maintains regular contact with their allocated schools.

Before children start school, Health Visitors transfer the care of all pre-school children to the School Nursing Team.

When will you meet us?

During the autumn term a member of the team will visit each reception class to introduce the School Nursing Team to the children with the help of our teddy bear 'Healthy Ted'. Healthy Ted is used as a health education tool to talk to the children about 'keeping healthy' and the screening checks we offer.

During your child's Reception year, we will send you a letter which contains a School Entry Health Review Questionnaire to complete on your child's behalf. This will allow us to understand any needs your child may have. In addition we will offer your child a hearing check as part of this process.

We will see your child for their hearing check in the company of a classmate. You will be informed of the results in writing. If you do not want your child to have this important hearing check, please telephone the relevant number on the front of this leaflet.

The National Child Measurement programme

The NHS needs to have a good understanding of how children are growing across the country, so that the best possible health services can be provided for them. As a result, the National Child Measurement Programme has been set up to weigh and measure children in England in Reception and Year 6.

You will be sent an email or letter with information about the programme when your child's class is due to take part. You can opt out of this programme if you wish by contacting us. If your child is identified as being underweight or very overweight you will be informed of the results of your child's measurements, by post, within 6 weeks of the measurement date. You will also receive a follow up phone call from your School Nursing Team.

Drop-ins and ChatHealth

The Parent/Carer/School Staff drop-in is an open access service that the School Nursing Team provides in schools, for children in year groups R – 6, where appropriate. It provides you with the opportunity to "drop-in" without an appointment, to discuss any aspect of your child's health or wellbeing with a member of the School Nursing Team. The service is confidential. You will find the Drop-in advertised in school newsletters and on posters in school. You can also ask at the school office or contact us direct. The School Nursing team must have parental consent to see children in year 6 and below.

Young People in year 7 and above can ask to see a member of the School Nursing Team, to discuss any concerns in a confidential way – they can also contact ChatHealth, a confidential School Nursing messaging service, providing contact with a registered Nurse who can provide health related advice and support.

The text number is 07480 635511.

Immunisations at school

The children's flu vaccine is offered as a yearly nasal spray to children to help protect them against flu.

Please check either the School Nursing webpage or www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/ to see whether your child is eligible.

Girls in Year 8 will be routinely offered the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination.

All young people in Year 10 are offered the 3 in 1 teenage booster vaccine: Tetanus, low dose Diphtheria and inactivated Polio together with the Meningitis ACWY vaccine.

Hearing tests

If at any time you have concerns regarding your child's hearing please contact your School Nursing Team who can arrange to complete a hearing test in school and refer on to the Audiology Service as appropriate.